(ख) उक्त प्लाट पर अवैध अतिक्रमण करने के बारे में एक शिकायत प्राप्त हुई थी। जांच पड़ताल करने पर दिल्ली नगर निगम के विधि विभाग के किसी भी अधिकारी को दोषी नहीं पाया गया।

United Nations verification agency to eliminate nuclear weapons

2354. **DR.** G. VIJAYA MOHAN REDDY : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether government propose to revive the six-nation proposal for a United Nations Verification Agency to help eliminate all nuclear weapons by 2010 ; and

(b) if so, what steps government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL) : (a) and (b) The proposal for the establishment of an integrated, multilateral verification system under the aegis of the United Nations, was part of India's Action Plan to usher in a nuclear weapon-free and non-violent world order tabled at the Third Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) devoted to disarmament in May-June, 1988. This was also accepted as an objective by the members of the Six Nation Initiative. The United Nations has since constituted an expert group for undertaking a study on verification, to which India is contributing actively. According to the mandate of this group, which is expected to submit its report to the 45th Session of the UNGA later this year, the proposals to be studied include inter aha the proposal for an integrated multilateral verification system.

E.D. Employees in Postal Department

2355. DR. NARREDDY THU-**LASI** REDDY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) what is the number of extra departmental staff (E.D.) in Postal Department at present ;

(b) what are the wages given to them;

(c) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to regularize the E.D. Staff;

(d) if so, what are he details thereof' and

(e) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESH-WAR MISHRA) :(a) The number of extra departmental agents is 2,98,890 as on 31-3-1989.

(b) The extra departmental agents are paid a monthly allowance subject to a certain minimum and maximum depending upon the work-load. The allowance of all categories of E.D. employees revise with effect from 1-1-86 are as under :—

Category	Min. (Rs.)	Max (Rs.)	
	. 385	620	
ED Branch Postmaslei	. 275	440	
	. . .	.270	420
All other ED Agents			
	. 240	(Fixed)	
(ii) for workload of 2 hrs and above	. 270	420	

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) EDAs who perform only part time job for the Department with fixed hours of work on a monthly allowance cannot in the very nature of things be regarded as full time government servants. The allowances they earn from the Department is meant to supplement the income they derive from other sources. It isfcr these reasons that their services cannot be regularized-

Complaints of Over Billing fromTelephone Subscribers andMembers of Parliament

2356. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Department of Telecommunications has received complaints of over billing from telephone subscribers including Members of Parliament;

(b) whether there are any vested interests playing fraud with the subscribers ; and

(c) if so, what remedial measures Government propose to take against false and exaggerated billing?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESH-WAR MISHRA) ; (a) Yes, Sir, some complaints of over billing of telephones have been received from subscribers, including Members of Parliament, but the incidence of such complaints has so far been less than or around 1 % of the toal bills issued. In 1989-90, rebate given was in 16.21 % cases of complaints received as justified.

(b) No, Sir. No such case has come to light.

(c) Details of remedial measures taken by the Department are given in the Statement.

Details of remedial measures takenby the Government with regard toExcess Billing Complaints

(a) Reading of the meter by one person and noting the readings in the registers by another person, and checking the readings by the reverse process. This minimises the chances of incorrect reading of meters.

(b) To avoid clerical errors, billing work has been computerised in all the Metro Districts, and some important cities.

(c) The facility of detailed billing of STD/ISD call free of cost has been allowed to subscribers, wherever existing exchange facilities permit this.

(d) The subscribers are also allowed the facility of obtaining fortnigtlhy meter readings on demand (a nominal charge of Rs. 2/-) to enable them to keep a watch over the progress of calls.

(e) The following technical solutions have also been adopted to minimise such cases :

(i) Introduction of positive battery metering in Cross-bar Exchanges.

(ii) Provision of automatic switch-over of day and night tariffs.

(iii) Reduction of forced release period on called subscriber held condition from 1 to 2 minute to 10 to 20 seconds in the case of STD calls